

support their amendment. I know and I think the offerers of the amendment know that there are senators who represent districts where cities are operating gambling and they want to keep that gambling even if the senator individually doesn't want it, he or she will feel that the municipality will want to keep it. So those votes are going to be against the amendment and we already know that. But as Senator Beutler said, this will be a record, and because that is probably all the amendment will accomplish, my remarks on it will go no further than they have thus far. I am going to support the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hoagland is next.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Senator Kahle, and colleagues, I am also rising to support this amendment. You know, I am amused to read the introductory language of the bill that sets out the intent and purpose and the phrase that the purpose of this bill is to establish a lottery for the sole purpose of community betterment. Now we know the reason that phrase is in there because of the constitutional restriction. But, obviously, the purpose of this bill was not to establish a lottery for the sole purpose of community betterment. The real purpose is to legalize a form of gambling and to allow the state to profit off an activity which to date has been largely illegal in the State of Nebraska. Now, let me remind you that out of a total general fund appropriation revenue fund of about \$750 million, this would only generate \$20 million, only about 2 percent of the total amount of general fund money. And I ask you, is it worth starting down this road, this road of legalizing this form of gambling for somewhere around 2 percent of the general fund? Now, there are a great deal of social costs involved in selling lottery tickets around the state, as Senator Chambers has pointed out, as the article that he has distributed points out. The chance of quick and easy money obviously appeals to lower income people who obviously in many cases can't afford to spend the money on a lottery. As Senator Chambers' article indicates, gambling can become an addiction. A Congressional Commission that studied gambling reported that the key to addiction lies in availability and here we are going to make gambling much more widely available than it has ever been in this state. There are a lot of people who are going to spend a lot of money and lose a lot of money in the lottery that simply can't afford it, so the state can increase its revenues by what, 2, 2½ percent of the general fund. Now I simply don't think it is worth it. I don't think it is worth the state engaging in this kind of activity for